

REMARKS

Claims 1-48 are currently pending in the application and are subject to a Restriction Requirement and an Election of Species Requirement. Claims 37-48 have been withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to a nonelected invention.

Please Note Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants wish to draw the Examiner's attention to the Information Disclosure Statement filed on November 13, 2003. Applicants respectfully request that the documents or other information referenced therein be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of the PTO-1449 form be returned to the undersigned attorney to evidence the same.

Should any of the documents, or portions thereof, be unavailable to the Examiner for any reason, please contact the undersigned attorney, who will supply the documents immediately by facsimile or other suitable method of delivery.

Restriction Requirement

Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, to prosecute the claims of Group II (claims 1-45).

Election of Species Requirement

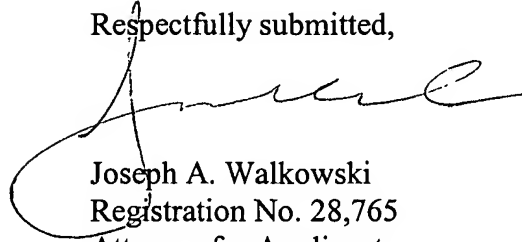
Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, to prosecute the species of invention as illustrated in FIGs. 14-20. The claims that read upon this species include claims 1-36.

Applicants consider claims 1 and 17 to be generic and note that upon allowance of a generic claim(s), claims respectively depending therefrom would also be allowable. In the case of claim 1, this would encompass claims 2-16 and in the case of claim 17, this would encompass claims 18-36.

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Applicant respectfully requests an early office action on the merits of claims 1-36.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Walkowski', written over a large, stylized circular flourish.

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